MINISTRY OF HEALTH
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Urban District of Whittlesey

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1966.

OFFICERS OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

	Medical Officer of Health :
	D.C. Logan, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
To 18th June, 1966	Public Health Inspector
From 20th June, 1966	Surveyor & Public Health Inspector
	D.A.Bamford, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
From 30th August, 1966	Deputy Surveyor & Additional Public Health Inspector
	J.B. Stocks

OFFICES OF THE WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
9, Queen Street,
Whittlesey.

Telephone Number Whittlesey 2224

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	23,362
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,308
Rateable Value (at 31.12.66.)	£335,320
Product of 1d. rate (at 31.3.66.)	£1,322. 15s. 3d.
Population (Registrar General's Figures)	9,820

TO:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I wish to present my Annual Report on the health of the population of Whittlesey for the year 1966.

Once again it is my great pleasure to express my thanks to my colleagues in the Health Department, Mr. Bamford, Mr. Stocks and Mrs. Tyers and I have deeply appreciated the way in which they have carried out their duties, which they have done in a most exemplary fashion.

I have the honour to be,
Your most obedient servant,

D.C. Logan

Medical Officer of Health.

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VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	63	78	141
Illegitimate	6	2	8
Total:	69	80	149

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population

Whittlesey Urban District	--	15.17
Whittlesey Urban District adjusted	-	15.32
England and Wales	-	17.7

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births 5.36

STILLBIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total:	2	-	2

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	13.24
England and Wales	-	15.4

The stillbirth rate is just slightly below the rate for England and Wales as a whole. Two stillbirths occurred during the year. One was associated with extreme prematurity and the other, a full time child, showed no signs of life at birth.

TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	65	78	143
Illegitimate	6	2	8
Total:	71	80	151

INFANT DEATHS (Deaths under one year)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	4	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total:	1	4	5

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births

Whittlesey Urban District	-	33.55
England and Wales	-	19.0

Once again, the Infant Mortality Rate for Whittlesey at 33.55 was higher than the rate for England and Wales as a whole. Five deaths occurred in children who were born prematurely. Two of the children in addition to that suffered from congenital abnormalities which were incompatible with survival for any length of time, and in the remaining two, one had an inter-cranial haemorrhage and the other child was of extreme prematurity being born after 26 weeks gestation. The fifth child had congenital heart disease which failed to respond to an operation and treatment and died when four months old.

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births 35.46

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births 0

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)

Whittlesey Urban District	-	26.84
England and Wales	-	12.9

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)

Whittlesey Urban District	-	20.13
England and Wales	-	11.1

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)

Whittlesey Urban District	-	33.11
England and Wales	-	26.3

MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of Deaths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0
England and Wales	-	223

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths

Whittlesey Urban District	-	0
England and Wales	-	0.26

DEATHS (ALL CAUSES)

Male	47	Female	40	Total	87

Death Rate - per 1,000 estimated population

Whittlesey Urban District	-	8.85
Whittlesey Urban District adjusted	-	10.09
England and Wales	-	11.7

Causes of Death in the Whittlesey Urban District, as supplied by the Registrar General for 1966 :-

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
Diabetes	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	4
Coronary disease, angina	10	7
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-
Other heart disease	5	2
Other circulatory disease	-	1
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	3	3
Bronchitis	1	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	3
Motor vehicle accidents	-	1
All other accidents	1	-
Suicide	1	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-
Total:	47	40

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year an outbreak of measles occurred but on the whole most of the cases were mild and no serious complications were encountered. It is quite probable that the course of the disease and particularly the low incidence of complications is brought about largely by the giving of anti-biotics during the illness.

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus and poliomyelitis continues and there are few people among the public who are not aware of the great benefits which this confers.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of infectious diseases were notified during 1966 :-

Disease	M.	F.	Total
Measles	123	131	254
Scarlet Fever	5	4	9
Whooping Cough	2	3	5
Pneumonia	-	2	2
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, lymphadenitis	-	1	1
Puerperal pyrexia	-	1	1
Total:	131	142	273

TO

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

WHITTLESEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the work carried out in the year 1966.

The latter half of the year involved re-organisation of the Public Health and Surveyor's Department as in June, 1966, Mr. D.H.B. Tarr, the Surveyor, took up another appointment and the Council decided to amalgamate the two departments. To ensure full coverage of public health matters the Council appointed Mr. J.B. Stocks as Deputy Surveyor, Additional Public Health Inspector. It is now possible for the district to have full coverage for meat inspection and public health matters.during holiday times and times of illness.

I would like to take this opportunity to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support, to the Clerk of the Council and the Medical Officer of Health for their help and to Mr. Stocks and Mrs Tyers for the helpful way in which they have carried out their duties.

I am, Lady & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D.A.BAMFORD.

Surveyor & Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

Water is purchased in bulk from Peterborough Corporation.

Frequent orthotolodine tests were made of the water from domestic taps and a satisfactory amount of free chlorine was found. The water is not plumbo-solvent, Peterborough Corporation test the water regularly and no treatment other than chlorination is carried out.

Although in the rural parts of the area there are many isolated houses only twelve do not have mains water supply.

The total consumption of water for the year, domestic and trade, was 131,084,000 gallons.

The comprehensive water scheme is now under construc tion. Progress to the end of the year has been good, with the reservoir nearing completion and much of the pipework within the district substantially completed.

CARAVANS

There are 16 licences issued under the Caravan Act for single sites and one multiple site. These sites have been satisfactory and are of a good standard.

The County Planning Authority are taking action to close two unsatisfactory multiple sites which have deemed planning permission.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Most of the town area and the villages of Coates and Eastrea are sewered. Because of the flatness of the area this sewering relies on five pumping stations.

It is regretted that the bad conditions arising from overflowing septic tanks in part of Snoots Road which have been referred to in previous reports still exist. It is envisaged that within the immediate future the developer will be laying his own sewer to these properties which will alleviate the poor conditions in Snoots Road.

NIGHTSOIL COLLECTION

The Council employs a Contractor to empty pails, vaults and cesspools at properties which cannot be connected to the sewer. The Contract in 1966 covered 167 pails which were emptied three times in every fortnight. Septic tanks and vaults are emptied free on request once in any period of six months. The unsatisfactory tanks in Snoots Road are emptied more frequently to try to avoid overflowing. It is with pleasure that it can be reported that the modernisation of houses from insanitary pails and vaults is progressing .

There have been fewer complaints of delays in this service, the Contractor has mainly emptied appliances within the time allowed him. Unfortunately a request for emptying a septic tank is often not received until it is overflowing and there must inevitably be a delay before the Contractor can get around to emptying it.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The refuse is collected by direct labour and two vehicles are used. The town area is collected weekly by a Shelvoke & Drewry 16/18 cu.yd. vehicle with compressor which is driven by the foreman and has four loaders. The outside areas are collected by a Shelvoke & Drewry 16/18 cu.yd. vehicle which has a driver and one loader. Built up areas are collected weekly and more isolated dwellings have a three weekly collection.

Routine servicing and washing of the vehicles is done by the drivers. Repairs are carried out by local garages.

Despite the fact that as more houses are being built and the weekly load increases only a few complaints are received about this service. These usually arise from late collections caused by Bank Holidays or long spells of bad weather. The foreman and staff continue to give a most satisfactory service, it is by their efforts that the collection runs smoothly and pleasantly.

Altogether 175,220 refuse bin collections were made in the year, together with trade refuse collected weekly from 35 premises, this resulted in 1259 journeys to the refuse tip. An increase of 6,045 bin collections and 186 journeys to the tip over the previous year.

Number of bins collected during year	175,220
Town round weekly average	2,195
Outside area weekly round	1,178

REFUSE DISPOSAL

The refuse disposal tip is situated in New Road not far from the centre of the town but away from dwellings.

The tip is open for the reception of rubbish and one man is employed full time to carry out levelling. By accepting rubbish it is hoped to prevent the indiscriminate tipping of unwanted articles in dykes, grass verges, etc .

Being a potential source of rat infestation regular poison baiting was carried out and a good measure of control was achieved.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES

Again the number of inspections was not as high as desired, but it is pleasing to note that the large majority of premises comply with the Regulations. It is hoped to increase the inspections to all the premises in 1967.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

SWIMMING BATHS

The Council has an open air heated swimming pool in the Manor Field, Station Road. The pool is 110 feet long and 42 feet wide. The Manager carries out tests twice daily, more frequently in times of heavy loads, and by careful control of the continuous filtration and chlorination plant a satisfactory standard was maintained. Bacteriological samples were also satisfactory in spite of high attendances.

MEASUREMENT OF AIR POLLUTION

A new site having been found which was acceptable to the Ministry of Technology, sampling of the atmosphere was recommenced towards the end of the year.

INSPECTIONS

The following table summarises the inspections made in 1966 :-

	Inspections	Informal Notice	Statutory Notice
Cesspool, pail and vault work	28	6	-
Drainage	17	9	-
Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses	53	8	-
Slaughterhouses and Butchers Shops	231	4	-
Food Shops	73	6	-
Restaurants	12	-	-
Verminous and Filthy Premises	2	1	-
Housing	147	23	-
Nuisances	28	11	-
Rats and Mice	45	3	-
Caravan Sites	24	2	-
Refuse Collection and Disposal	67	-	-

Of the 73 informal notices served 57 were complied with.

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION

Several reports of wasps nests were made and were successfully dealt with.

One case requiring disinfection was reported by the Medical Officer of Health. Bedding from a patient with septicaemia was treated at St. John's Close, Peterborough.

HOUSING

Number of houses erected during 1966 :-

By Local Authority	25 Houses and Bungalows
By Private Enterprise	55 Houses and Bungalows

20 applications were made for Improvement Grants, 15 of which were approved and received grants.

9 Notices of Time and Place to consider the condition of 9 dwellings were served in the year and the following action taken :-

Demolition Orders	5
Closing Orders	1

8 dwellings were demolished and 11 families were re-housed from unfit houses.

The Flatlet scheme in Gracious Street was completed and the flatlets let to twenty single elderly persons. A Warden is in attendance 24 hours a day.

A Contract has been entered into to provide 22 units of two bedroom bungalows within the Town Area. Progress to date has been a little slow owing to inclement weather which has made site conditions unworkable.

RENT ACT, 1957

There were no applications under the above Act during the year.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

Inspections made (under the Factories Act) for 1966

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	1	-	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced	48	23	2	-
Other Premises	11	14	-	-
TOTAL:	61	38	2	-

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Number of Cases in which Defects were found			Number of cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted.
		Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Closet Unsuitable or Defective	1	-	-	-	-
TOTAL :	2	1	-	-	-

OUTWORK SECTIONS 110 & 111

There are no outworkers in the district.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

ICE-CREAM

There are 43 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream; all the ice-cream being pre-packed. The only loose ice-cream sold in the area is sold from vehicles.

There are no ice-cream manufacturing premises in the area.

CONDEMNED FOOD

6 certificates were issued covering 190 items of foodstuffs which were voluntarily surrendered by shopkeepers. Condemned food is disposed of by burying in the Council's Refuse Tip. It was not found necessary to seize any diseased or unsound food.

FOOD PREPARATION

Premises registered for the making up of food	11
Fish Friers	3
Bakehouses	3
Cafes	2
Other food shops	39
Public Houses	32

Satisfactory food premises and food handling are of prime importance and it is essential for food handlers to learn the correct methods of dealing with modern food packaging, particularly frozen foods.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There is one modern privately owned licensed slaughterhouse in the area. It is well maintained and is capable of handling a much larger throughput than is being dealt with at present.

KNACKER'S YARD

There is one licensed knacker's yard which is satisfactory.

No live animals are brought on to the premises.

MEAT INSPECTION

All animals killed in the slaughterhouse are inspected although this has involved some overtime.

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle (excluding cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	87	-	-	166	604	-
Number inspected	87	-	-	166	604	
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	1	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12	-	-	2	34	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	13.79	-	-	1.8	5.7	-
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	4	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

MEAT CONDEMNED

Bovines

3 livers abscesses	42 lbs.
3 livers flukes	30 lbs.
1 lungs pleurisy	8 lbs.
1 lungs inflammation	8 lbs.
1 lungs and liver parasites	22 lbs.
1 heart pericarditis	6 lbs.
1 hindquarters trimmed for bruising	4 lbs.

Pigs

4 heads tuberc ulosis	40 lbs.
½ head actinymosis	5 lbs.
19 hearts and lungs inflammation	53 lbs.
1 set lungs cysts	1½ lbs.
7 livers hepatitis	15½ lbs.
4 kidneys nephritis	2 lbs.
1 abscess in chump end	2 lbs.
1 spleen haemorrhagic	6 ozs

Sheep

1 bruising and badly bled sheep and all offal	57 lbs.
2 hindquarters bruising	44 lbs.